

The State of Reproductive Health and Rights:

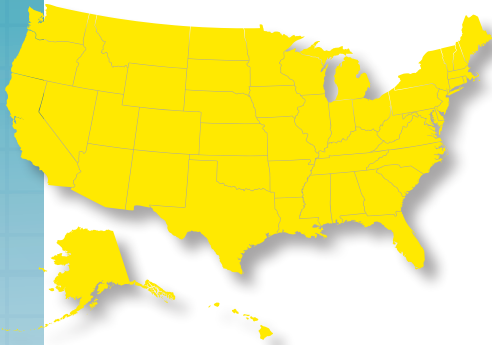
50-STATE REPORT CARD

U.S. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS AT A CROSSROADS

The status of reproductive health and rights in the U.S. is at an historic crossroads. At the federal level, the Affordable Care Act is expanding insurance coverage for reproductive health services, but at the state level political assaults on Planned Parenthood and other providers are threatening to limit access to family planning clinics. What happens in the next few years could dramatically affect the future status of reproductive health and rights in the U.S.

If the Affordable Care Act survives and more states expand Medicaid eligibility, the costs of accessing contraceptive services could be dramatically lower for most women, but if the state assault on family planning providers continues unabated and the courts do not rein in the growing number of abortion restrictions, many women will find it more difficult to gain physical access to family planning and abortion services.

Because of these two conflicting trends, the United States as a whole received the same grade for 2013, a “C-”, as it did the prior year, but several states saw their grades decline as a result of abortion restrictions or cutbacks in support for family planning services.



THE UNITED STATES GETS A “C-”

The United States as a whole has been given a grade of C-. Here's why:


- America's rate of unintended pregnancy remains stubbornly high: almost half of all pregnancies in the U.S. are unintended.
- Many of the gains that have been made in reproductive health could be reversed if social conservatives prevail in Congress and the state legislatures.
- Family planning clinics are being threatened by funding cuts and burdensome laws and regulations.

GRADING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS


While most Americans are aware of the national political debate over birth control and abortion, many are uninformed about the status of reproductive health and rights in their own state. In the interest of an informed public debate, the Population Institute is—for the second year in a row—releasing a report card that gives an overview of what's happening in the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

THE 50-STATE REPORT CARD


- ✓ **FOCUS:** The 50-state report card focuses on four broad indicators or policies relating to reproductive health and rights:
- ✓ **EFFECTIVENESS** (30 points): Statewide, what percentage of pregnancies are unintended, and how high is the state's teenage pregnancy rate?
- ✓ **PREVENTION** (20 points): Does the state promote comprehensive sex education in the schools, and does it support access to emergency contraception in the emergency room?
- ✓ **AFFORDABILITY** (30 points): Does the state have policies designed to make birth control affordable to uninsured and low-income individuals?
- ✓ **ACCESS** (20 points): Does the state impose harassing or burdensome requirements on those seeking family planning or abortion services?

 **CRITERIA AND SCORES:** Nine criteria are used in determining a state's composite score. States with the best grades will have:

1. A low rate of teenage pregnancy (15 points maximum)
2. A low rate of unintended pregnancy (15 points maximum)
3. Comprehensive sex education in the schools (15 points maximum)
4. Access to emergency contraception in the emergency room (5 points maximum)
5. Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (10 points maximum)
6. A Medicaid "waiver" expanding eligibility for family planning services (10 points maximum)
7. Adequate state funding for family planning clinics serving low-income households, measured by dollars of assistance per woman in need (10 points maximum)
8. An absence of burdensome abortion restrictions (10 points maximum)
9. County-level access to family planning and abortion services (10 points maximum)

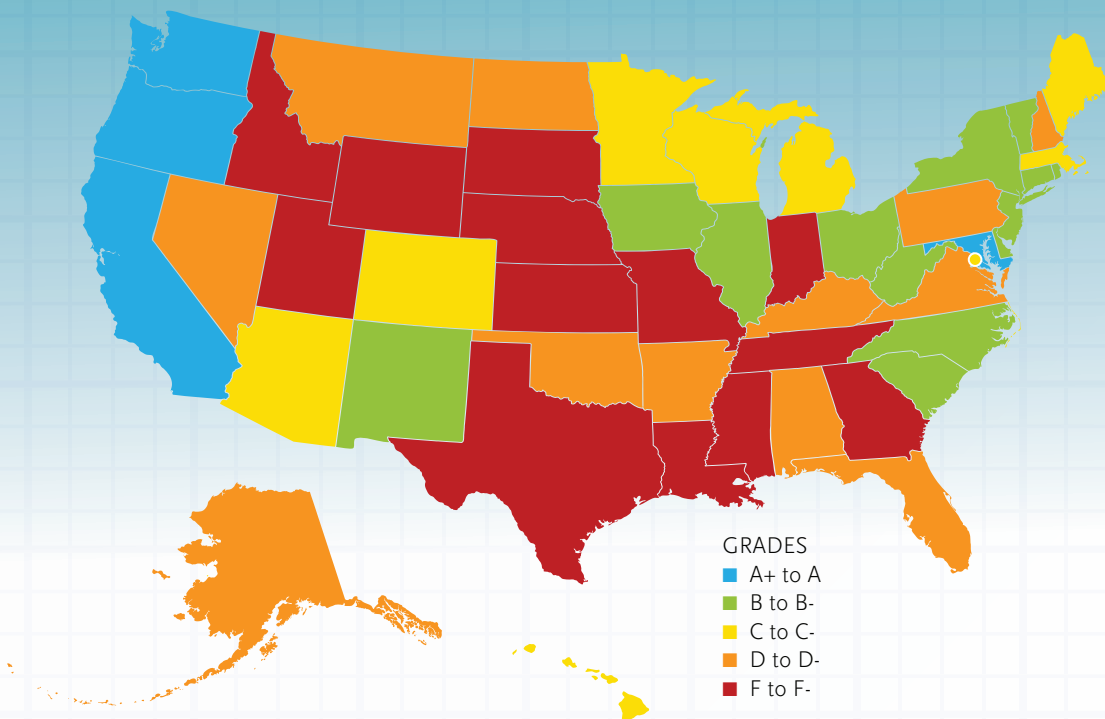
 **CORE GRADE:** Each state is assigned a "core" grade based upon the following grading system:

A: 80-100 points **B:** 65-79.9 points **C:** 55-64.9 points **D:** 46-54.9 points **F:** < than 45 points

 **FINAL GRADE:** If there are noteworthy developments that are not reflected in the state's "core" grade, a state may be accorded a plus (+) or a minus (-), depending on how the changes are likely to impact reproductive health and rights.

| STATE | TOTAL SCORES | LETTER GRADES | STATE | TOTAL SCORES | LETTER GRADES | STATE | TOTAL SCORES | LETTER GRADES |
|-------|--------------|---------------|-------|--------------|---------------|-------|--------------|---------------|
| AL | 46.3 | D- | KY | 54.3 | D- | ND | 46.6 | D- |
| AK | 47.5 | D | LA | 37.6 | F- | OH | 66.3 | B- |
| AZ | 55.9 | C | ME | 62.3 | C | OK | 54.5 | D- |
| AR | 54.3 | D- | MD | 80.9 | A | OR | 90.0 | A |
| CA | 87.2 | A+ | MA | 64.6 | C | PA | 48.3 | D |
| CO | 61.1 | C | MI | 58.6 | C | RI | 68.3 | B |
| CT | 75.6 | B | MN | 63.7 | C- | SC | 65.2 | B |
| DE | 74.7 | B | MS | 34.8 | F- | SD | 37.0 | F- |
| DC | 63.9 | C | MO | 43.8 | F- | TN | 41.7 | F |
| FL | 46.4 | D | MT | 51.0 | D- | TX | 41.3 | F- |
| GA | 43.8 | F | NE | 41.3 | F | UT | 44.0 | F |
| HI | 62.3 | C | NV | 51.7 | D | VT | 78.0 | B |
| ID | 43.0 | F | NH | 51.0 | D | VA | 51.9 | D |
| IL | 69.7 | B | NJ | 79.6 | B | WA | 84.1 | A+ |
| IN | 38.6 | F- | NM | 78.1 | B | WV | 66.1 | B |
| IA | 65.0 | B- | NY | 77.1 | B | WI | 61.0 | C- |
| KS | 37.0 | F- | NC | 65.0 | B- | WY | 40.1 | F |

FINAL GRADE OVERVIEW



STATE BREAKDOWNS: For state press releases and state-by-state breakdowns of the scoring, more information can be obtained at www.populationinstitute.org/reportcard.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- About teenage pregnancy in the U.S., see <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPtrendsStateo8.pdf>
- About the rate of unintended pregnancies in the U.S, see <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/StateUPo8.pdf>
- About state abortion restrictions, see http://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/spibs/spib_OAL.pdf
- About State Medicaid Expansions, see <http://kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/state-activity-around-expanding-medicaid-under-the-affordable-care-act/>
- About state Medicaid family planning waivers, see http://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/spibs/spib_SMFPE.pdf
- About sex education requirements at the state level, see http://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/spibs/spib_SE.pdf

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